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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/677,384	10/03/2003	Fabrice Perignon	Q72954	9732

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EXAMINER

CARTAGENA, MELVIN A

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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3754

SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD OF RESPONSE	MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
3 MONTHS	03/05/2007	PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire 6 MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/677,384

Applicant(s)

PERIGNON ET AL.

Examiner

Melvin A. Cartagena

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 25 January 2007.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-22 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-22 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Continued Examination Under 37 CFR 1.114

1. A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on January 25, 2007 has been entered.

Claim Objections

2. Claim 21 is objected to because of the following informalities: Claim 1 recites the limitation "the dispensing body" in line 1. There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim. Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

3. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

4. Claims 1-4, 7, 9-17 and 20-22 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by US 5,271,532 to Jumel et al.

Jumel shows a fluid dispenser as seen in Fig. 1, having a fixing member 3 for fixing a dispenser member 1 to the neck 7 of reservoir 2, the fixing member has a cylindrical vertical skirt formed by segment 15, 16 and 6 engaging the opening of the reservoir in a leak tight contact, a dispenser body 8 with an inlet 24 to receive fluid from the reservoir, receiving means

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13, a vent 9 passing through the thickness of the skirt and located at a middle segment 16 below the segment 15 of larger diameter and communicating the interior and exterior of the reservoir to vent air trap in the reservoir during engagement of the dispensing member to the reservoir, see column 3, lines 16-25, an abutment flange 12, a ferrule 4 and a pump chamber 14.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

5. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

6. Claims 8 and 19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over US 5,271,532 to Jumel et al.

Jumel shows in Fig. 1 all claimed features as discussed above except for a vertical groove communicating with the vent. In Fig. 2 Jumel shows a vent groove 9A communicating with vent 9. It would have been obvious to a person with ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the device of Jumel depicted in Fig. 1 by including a groove as seen in Fig. 2, to assure venting of the air pressure produced inside the container when fitting the pump onto the neck of the container is carried out.

7. Claims 5, 6 and 18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over US 5,271,532 to Jumel et al. in view of US 6,349,856 to Chastel.

Jumel shows all claimed features as discussed above except for the fixing member having an outwardly projecting bead. Fuchs shows in Fig. 1, outwardly projecting beads 14 extending from the fixing member 1 and designed to flatten in the opening of the container, see Figs. 2 and

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2a. It would have been obvious to a person with ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the device of Jumel to include an outwardly projecting bead to produce a reliable seal and a stable cylindrical assembly as taught by Chastel.

Response to Arguments

8. Applicant's arguments filed November 21, 2006 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive. With respect to the applicant's arguments that the reference of Jumel lacks a fixing member, there is no requirement in the claim for the fixing member to be separate from the pump mechanism. The engaging surface around section 15 fixes the dispenser member onto the container, as claimed. In reference to the vent system of Jumel, the system permits air to flow out of the container during the assembly process as describe in column 3, lines 16-25, to release the air trap above the liquid and the engaging member as claimed.

Conclusion

9. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Bougamont shows a system for providing sealed assembly between a pump and a container. Behar shows a method for assembling a dispenser with a plunging sleeve. Meshberg shows a hand held container and dispensing assembly.


Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Melvin A. Cartagena whose telephone number is (571) 272-4924. The examiner can normally be reached on T-F (7:30AM to 6:00 PM).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Kevin P. Shaver can be reached on (571) 272-4720. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

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